

## **Dan & Sam: Cool, Free, or ...You've Gotta have it Applications!**

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There are just sooooo many great applications being developed these days. From apps for portable devices, to Web 2.0 tools for education, support and fun! This is a listing of some of the top sites, applications and devices we have seen, use, and would recommend.

1. **NVDA** Non Visual Desktop Access <http://www.nvda-project.org/wiki/Download> screen reader that reads text displayed on computer from documents, folder names, menus, reads text online – free
2. **VoiceOver** <http://www.apple.com/accessibility/voiceover/> – for the Macintosh, free screen reader built into OS 10.5 and up, and for iPhone. Turned on by choosing System Preferences, Speech, Text to Speech. Ability to set your own keystroke combination to read highlighted text
3. **DSpeech** <http://dimio.altervista.org/eng/> - free text to speech, text to audio, voice recognition program for PC. Can run directly from a USB flash drive.
4. **Applications for iPods** – from the iTunes App Store
  - **Proloquo2Go** - AAC Software
  - **Story Kit** – create electronic story books
  - **Sign 4 Me** – a Signed English Translator
  - **Eyeglasses** – document magnifier for iPhone
5. **Easi-Speak Microphone** [www.RMeducation.com](http://www.RMeducation.com) - portable USB microphone. Allows multiple recordings, playback on device, files saved as MP3 or WAV, built-in USB plug on device allows importing files into computer
6. **Word Talk, PowerTalk** - <http://www.wordtalk.org.uk/Home/> , <http://fullmeasure.co.uk/powertalk/> -Word Talk adds text to speech functionality to MS Word, Power Talk reads text in PowerPoint Slides
7. **Online Books** – Tar Heel Reader, etc. <http://tarheelreader.org/> - free, downloadable or read online books, use with PowerTalk. A 2 page resource sheet – “Downloadable and Online Books” containing web links can be found at [www.connectivetechsolutions.com](http://www.connectivetechsolutions.com)
8. **iLighter** [www.ilighter.com](http://www.ilighter.com) – free online electronic highlighter which saves highlighted text from websites in your account on the iLighter server for access from any computer

9. **YouTube Downloaders** - working with YouTube videos for reading, writing, learning content – download so you don't need to be online. YouTube Downloaders:  
[http://download.cnet.com/YouTube-Downloader/3000-2071\\_4-10647340.html](http://download.cnet.com/YouTube-Downloader/3000-2071_4-10647340.html)  
<http://youtubedownload.altervista.org/>
10. **File storage and sharing**     [www.box.net](http://www.box.net) , [www.getdropbox.com](http://www.getdropbox.com) – saving and sharing files on the internet
11. **KNFB Reader**     <http://www.knfbreader.com/> - application for specific model Nokia cell phones which allows user to take a picture of text, converts the image to text, reads back using natural speech voices
12. **Pulse Smartpen**     [www.livescribe.com/education](http://www.livescribe.com/education) - The Pulse Smartpen records and links audio to what you write on paper
13. **Hobnox**     <http://www.hobnox.com/index.1056.en.html> - free, create online music, save and download
14. **VocabGrabber**     <http://www.visualthesaurus.com/vocabgrabber/> - online, provides a visual analysis of any text, or block of text, that you type or paste in, generating lists of the most useful vocabulary words and showing you how those words are used in context. Free component, Free trial, subscription based
15. **Wordle**     <http://www.wordle.net/> - generates “word clouds” from text that you provide. The clouds give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the source text. free

**Additional Web Listings and Programs** – all programs are free unless specified

[www.essayrater.com](http://www.essayrater.com) – online grammar checker

[www.languagetools.org](http://www.languagetools.org) – downloadable grammar checker

<http://jaycut.com> – online video editing program – upload videos, edit, add transitions, download

<http://www.aresearchguide.com/> - online research guide for writing term papers including links to periodicals, advanced search engines, how to cite, footnotes, bibliography and more

<http://www.edmodo.com/> - Edmodo is a program for teachers and students to share notes, links, and files. Teachers have the ability to send alerts, events, and assignments to students.

<http://www.spokentext.net/> - online text to audio converter. Can upload and convert documents, can convert web pages by simply adding the URL, and more. free trial, subscription rates

<http://ptable.com> – online interactive periodic table

<http://lexipedia.com> - visual interactive representations of words

<http://www.iris.edu/seismon/> - interactive earthquake map of the world

<http://www.daylightmap.com> - map of the world showing what is currently in darkness, clouds

<http://www.sciencenetlinks.com/> - online science resources, lessons, benchmarks, interactive

<http://www.edheads.org/activities/simple-machines/> - simple and complex machines, interactive

<http://www.kerpoof.com/> Kerpoof - a site that provides a variety of creative tools for animation,

<http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/createAgraph/default.aspx> Create-A-Graph - creating graphs